

Claims (in revised format)

I claim:

1. (currently amended) A unitary connector that retrofits onto existing buildings and helps prevent hurricane and earthquake damage by positively connecting a roof to a wall, comprising:
 - a. a base web;
 - b. offset, angled, blocking webs, each having a generally right angled bend forming a rafter tab;
 - c. said base web and each said blocking web connected by an offset web;
 - d. said offset web having a first acute angled bend attached to said base web and a second, unequal, acute angled bend attached to said blocking webs
 - e. said rafter tabs are generally perpendicular to said blocking web;.
2. (previously amended) The connector of claim 1 wherein said base web having a generally flat, generally long-horizontal rectangular shape, with a plurality of nail holes for attachment to an exterior wall and into underlying structural members.
3. (previously amended) The connector of claim 1 wherein said offset web connected to said base web by said first bend bent at an acute angle.
4. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1 wherein said offset web connected to said blocking webs by said second bend bent at an unequal acute angle.
5. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1 wherein said first and said second angled bends, attached to opposite

ends of said offset web, having generally unequal, acute bends in opposite directions, thereby offsetting said blocking webs at an acute angle from said base web, and thus avoiding frieze boards or blocking on a house.

6. (currently amended) The connector of claim 1 wherein said first and said second acute bends and said offset web forming said base web and said blocking web unparallel to each other, ~~thereby forming~~ providing a buttress between said roof rafter and said wall ~~with underlying structural members~~, thereby preventing the roof ~~said exterior wall~~ from detaching from the wall ~~said roof~~.
7. (previously amended) The connector of claim 1 wherein said blocking webs having said generally right angle bends dividing said blocking webs into generally equal left and right blocking webs.
8. (previously amended) The connector of claim 1 wherein said rafter tabs are generally rectangular, vertical, parallel, and have a plurality of nail holes for attachment to the opposite sides of a roof rafter.
9. (previously amended) The connector of claim 1 wherein said offset web, and said first and second acute angles place said blocking webs generally parallel to frieze boards or blocking on said house, and said blocking webs having a plurality of nail holes for attachment onto said frieze boards or blocking.
10. (previously amended) The connector of claim 1 wherein said base web, said rafter tabs, and said blocking webs having

attaching means to the outside wall and underlying top plate, the roof rafter, and the frieze boards or blocking respectively, on an existing house, thereby securing together the exterior wall and roof, and preventing uplift and lateral movement from wind and seismic events.

11-14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) An apparatus that retrofits onto existing buildings and helps prevent hurricane and earthquake damage by positively connecting the top of a roof to a wall, comprising:
- a. a base plate;
 - b. offset, angled, blocking tabs, each having a generally right angled bend forming a rafter tab;
 - c. each said rafter tab having a strengthening tab attached at a generally right angle bend;
 - d. each said blocking tab having a sheathing tab attached at a generally right angled bend;
 - e. said base plate and each said blocking tab connected by an offset tab;
 - f. said offset tab having a first acute angled bend attached to said base plate and a second acute angled bend attached to said blocking tabs.
 - g. a roof plate.
16. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said first and said second angled bends, attached to opposite ends of said offset tab, having generally unequal, acute bends in opposite directions, thereby offsetting said blocking tabs at an acute angle from said base plate, thereby avoiding frieze boards or blocking on a house.

17. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said first and said second acute bends and said offset tab forming said base plate and said blocking tabs unparallel to each other forming a buttress between a roof rafter and wall ~~with underlying structural members,~~ thereby preventing the roof ~~said exterior wall~~ from detaching from the wall ~~said roof rafter~~.
18. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said blocking tabs having said generally right angle bends dividing said blocking tabs into left and right blocking tabs.
19. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said right angle bends form rafter tabs, off each said left and right blocking tab, that are generally vertical, parallel, and having a plurality of nail holes for attachment to the sides of said roof rafter.
20. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said apparatus having an offset tab, and acute angles, thereby placing said blocking tabs generally parallel to frieze boards and blocking on said house, and said blocking webs having a plurality of nail holes for attachment onto said frieze boards and blocking.
21. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said sheathing tab and said strengthening tab on the left side folded on top of each other, and said sheathing tab and said strengthening tab on the right side folded on top of each other, thereby forming double thickness with each side having a bolt hole.

22. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein each said double thick strengthening tab and sheathing tab bent generally perpendicular to said blocking tabs and generally bent perpendicular to said rafter tabs, thereby placing said strengthening tabs and sheathing tabs on either side of said rafter and generally parallel to the roof.
23. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein said apparatus connected to said roof plate, on top of said roof, by a bolt on either side of said rafter that pierce through bolt holes on said roof plate, through pre-drilled holes in said roof, and into each said bolt hole on said double thickness sheathing tab and strengthening tab, thereby tying the roof securely to the wall, preventing wind and seismic damage to the house.